

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 3

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2004 Regular Session
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By: **Delegates Marriott, Anderson, Branch, Carter, C. Davis, Doory,
Goodwin, Hammen, Harrison, Haynes, Kirk, Krysiak, McHale,
McIntosh, Nathan-Pulliam, Oaks, and Paige**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2004
Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A House Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Transitional Emergency Medical and Housing Assistance Program -**
3 **Deficiency Appropriation**

4 FOR the purpose of urging the Governor to end a freeze on the Transitional
5 Emergency Medical and Housing Assistance Program and to increase funds
6 available for fiscal 2004 for the Program by transferring funds from other
7 programs or by including in the fiscal 2005 budget a deficiency appropriation for
8 fiscal 2004 for the Program; providing that a copy of this resolution be
9 forwarded by the Department of Legislative Services to certain individuals; and
10 generally relating to the Transitional Emergency Medical and Housing
11 Assistance Program.

12 WHEREAS, The Transitional Emergency Medical and Housing Assistance
13 Program ("TEMHA") provides cash assistance for poor and disabled adults who are
14 unable to work due to their disabilities and have no other source of income; and

15 WHEREAS, TEMHA annually serves as a safety net for at least 15,000
16 childless and disabled adults who are among the State's most vulnerable individuals;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Because of an anticipated budget deficit in the Program resulting
19 from increased numbers of individuals applying for aid and because of a federal
20 government delay in approving individuals for federal disability aid, the Department
21 of Human Resources at the beginning of this year instituted a 6-month suspension on
22 new approvals for aid under TEMHA for fiscal 2004 and has announced that no new
23 cash assistance for disabled individuals will be approved until the next fiscal year;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, As a result of the freeze on approval of new assistance under
26 TEMHA, assistance will be unavailable to thousands of disabled individuals who are
27 in desperate need of assistance; and

28 WHEREAS, It is the intent of the General Assembly that the Transitional
29 Emergency Medical and Housing Assistance Program have the resources to provide
30 appropriate services to eligible persons in need; now, therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the
2 General Assembly urges the Governor to end the freeze on new approvals for
3 assistance under TEMHA and to make additional funds available for TEMHA by
4 transferring funds from other programs or by including a deficiency appropriation for
5 fiscal 2004 in the fiscal 2005 State budget; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
7 Legislative Services to the Honorable Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Governor of Maryland;
8 the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; the
9 Honorable Michael E. Busch, Speaker of the House of Delegates; and the Honorable
10 Christopher J. McCabe, Secretary of the Department of Human Resources.